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ShopBot “Buddy” with PowerStick Selected as IWF Challengers Award Finalist

Durham, NC. (July 2008) – ShopBot Tools Inc., a leading manufacturer of affordable CNC routing systems, has been chosen as a finalist for the International Woodworking Machinery & Furniture Supply Fair’s *Challengers Distinguished Achievement Award*. The company’s newest line of compact CNC routers, the PRSalpha BT32 and BT48 “Buddy,” and its innovative PowerStick are among the 20 finalists - from a record 126 entries - for the prestigious IWF award.

The Challengers Award, known throughout the world as the woodworking industry’s highest honor, recognizes advancements in technology or significant contributions to environmental improvement and focuses on companies who have distinguished themselves by developing innovative technology in products, services, or manufacturing techniques. The award challenges IWF exhibiting companies to develop revolutionary, creative, ingenious, forward thinking technology, materials, services or safety devices that advance the industry.

“We are very excited about our ‘Buddy’ and Power Stick and feel honored that the industry has recognized its inventiveness and potential for usefulness in wood production manufacturing,” said Ted Hall, ShopBot president. “We believe it has the ability to revolutionize high-output CNC production operations as well as make CNC very attractive for the garage workshop.”

“Buddy” is a compact but powerful CNC, easily moved or expanded to add flexibility to production and manufacturing with a minimum of space, hassle or cost. The highly mobile Buddy is fitted with a 24”x32” or 24”x48” table, weighs less than 600lbs and occupies 16-22 sq. ft. of floor space. ShopBot’s PowerStick is a system of rack-style gear and extruded aluminum rails - plus support legs - that can replace a standard table to provide expanded work areas to the BT32 and BT48 Buddy systems. It is available in four sizes to extend Buddy’s cutting surface to two, four, eight or 12 feet long for large cutting, drilling or machining projects or to allow the setup of multiple sets of fixtures for production efficiency. The ShopBot Buddy is the only fully configurable CNC on the market.

The “Buddy’s” affordable price tag – as low as \$6000 – small space requirements and easy-to-use software package included with every tool also make CNC more available than ever. Even the do-it-yourselfer can have the benefit of CNC capability in the workshop for the cost of a lawn tractor and without an insurmountable learning curve. The Buddy with PowerStick joins ShopBot’s industry-leading line of highly usable and dynamic CNC routing systems.

From among the 20 finalists, seven outstanding exhibiting companies will be selected by panel of ten judges during the last round of judging, which takes place on August 19, one day before the opening of IWF 2008. These seven winning companies will receive the Challengers Award during a special awards ceremony on Wednesday, August 20 at 1:30pm.

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About ShopBot Tools, Inc.

ShopBot Tools, based in Durham, N.C., designs and manufactures low-cost, high-value Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) cutting machines. ShopBot was founded by CEO Ted Hall, Ph.D., a Duke University professor of neuroscience, who developed the tool while building plywood boats as a hobby. After several years of development, the company began shipping tools in 1996. With more than 5,000 ShopBots in 54 countries, ShopBot is one of the largest producers of CNC routers for woodworking and plastics in North America. The company employs 25 people in the Durham, N.C. area. For more information, visit them at **IWF booths #8649 and #8436** or online at www.shopbottools.com.

About IWF- International Woodworking Machinery & Furniture Supply Fair-U.S.A.

The largest woodworking technology trade show in the western hemisphere is held every two years at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA and is ranked among the largest trade shows in the world. Recognized around the world as the preeminent event for introducing and selling manufacturing equipment, supplies and innovative new technology, IWF attracts more than 43,000 visitors from every level of the industry from more than eighty countries. More than 1,200 exhibitors from all over the globe will be displaying the newest technology in machinery, supplies and services during the four days of the exhibition. IWF 2008 will take place Wednesday - Saturday, August 20-23, 2008 at the Georgia World Congress Center. IWF is owned and sponsored by American Home Furnishings Alliance (AHFA), Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America (WMMA) and Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA).

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